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BARNACK RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

REPORT OF THE SURVEYOR AND PUBLIC HEALTH

INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1967

STAFF:

Medical Officer of Health

Dr; J. B. Stafford L.R.C.P. (ED.)., L.R.C.S. (ED.)., L.R.C.P. & S., (GLAS.)., D.P.H.

Surveyor and Public Health Inspector

Mr. D. Ward Griffiths, F.F.S., M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

TO THE MEMBERS OF

BARNACK RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Ladies and Gentlemen,

On March 31st, 1968, I completed my third year as your Medical Officer of Health. During the short time I have been in the district I have seen some changes, especially in Barnack itself, which is rapidly becoming a popular residential area.

There were no major epidemics or illnesses in the district during the year under review.

POPULATION

The estimated population for mid-1967, according to the Registrar-General was 6,570 - giving an estimated increase of 120 on the previous year (compared with an increase of 50 in the year 1966).

STATISTICS

The live birth rate of 15.7 per 1,000 of the population is again above the rate for the previous year, which was 13.6, but is lower than the rate for England and Wales as a whole, which is estimated at 17.2.

The infant mortality rate is considerably lower than our rate for 1966, which was 34.0 per 1,000 live births. In 1967, it was 19.4, compared with a rate of 18.3 for the country as a whole.

There were three stillbirths, giving a stillbirth rate of 28.4 compared with a rate of 14.8 for England and Wales.

The death rate of 4.3 per 1,000 home population is again much lower than the rate for the country as a whole which is 11.2. In the previous year our death rate was 6.6.

Six of the deaths were due to malignant disease, including three deaths from cancer of the lung.

Three deaths were due to accidents (one motor vehicle accident) and one due to suicide - which account for fourteen per cent of the total number of deaths.

CONCLUSION

These figures show that the health of the district was most satisfactory. The extremely low death rate is particularly noteworthy.

I should like to again express my thanks to the Clerk of the Council, the Public Health Inspector and the clerical staff of the County Health Department for the help they have given me, and to the members of the Committee for their continued support.

I have the honour to be,
Your obedient Servant

JOHN BRYCE STAFFORD

Medical Officer of Health

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area.....15,256 acres

Population (estimated mid-1967)..... 6,570

Number of inhabited houses from Rate Book (estimated Mid-1967)..... 1,135

Rateable Value (April, 1967).....£177,011

Sum Represented by a penny rate (April, 1967).....£825

EXTRACT FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR

LIVE BIRTHS	MALES	FEMALES	TOTAL		ENGLAND AND WALES
Legitimate	50	48	98		
Illegitimate	2	3	5		
Total	52	51	103		
Live birth rate per 1,000 population				15.7	17.2
Ratio of local adjusted birth rate to national rate				1.34	
Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total births				4.8	

STILLBIRTHS	M.	F.	Total
	-	3	3

Stillbirth rate per 1,000 total births	28.4	14.8
Total Live and Stillbirths	106	

INFANT DEATHS (Under one year)

	Males	Females	Total
Leigitimate	-	1	1
Illegitimate	1	-	1

INFANT MORTALITY RATE	19.4	18.3
Perinatal Mortality Rate (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week of age)	47	25.4

DEATHS

Males	13
Females	15
Total	28

Crude death rate per 1,000 home population	4.3	11.2
Ratio of local adjusted death rate to national rate	0.81	

BARNACK RURAL DISTRICT

International Statistical Classification of Diseases

CAUSES OF DEATH - 1967

	Male	Female
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	3	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	-	1
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	1	1
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	2	2
Coronary Disease, Angina	1	3
Other Heart Disease	1	3
Pneumonia	1	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis	-	1
Other Defined and Ill-defined Diseases	1	2
Motor Vehicle Accidents	1	-
All other Accidents	1	1
Suicide	1	-
TOTAL ALL CAUSES	13	15

AGE DISTRIBUTION OF THE NOTIFIED INFECTIOUS DISEASES

	Under 1 year	1 year	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 - 9 years	10 - 14 years	15 - 24 years	25 - 34 years	35 - 44 years	45 and over	Unknown	TOTAL
Measles	-	11	7	11	8	23	-	-	-	-	-	1	61
Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	2
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meningitis	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
TOTAL	-	11	7	11	8	25	1	1	-	-	1	1	66

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

Nursing in the Home:

Under the County Council Scheme, the services of a district nurse are available in all the villages in the District.

Home Helps:

Domestic Home Helps are available under the County Council Scheme. Applications should be made to :-

The Home Help Organiser
County Health Department,
Town Hall, Peterborough.

General Hospitals:

Acute cases and Maternity admissions are made either to the Stamford and Rutland Hospital, Stamford, or the Memorial Hospital, Peterborough. Maternity cases to the Maternity Units under the charge of these hospitals.

Chronic and long-term cases are admitted to St. George's Hospital, Stamford, and St. John's Hospital, Peterborough.

Infectious Diseases:

Infectious cases are admitted to Peterborough Isolation Hospital, under the Peterborough Hospital Management Committee.

Treatment Centres and Clinics:

(a) Provided by the Huntingdon and Peterborough County Council:

Child Welfare Clinics:

(i)	Village Hall, Barnack	....	Third Thursday afternoon of each month.
(ii)	Parish Hall, Wittering	....	First Wednesday afternoon in each month.
(iii)	Reading Room, Bainton	....	Second Wednesday afternoon in each month.

Diphtheria Immunisation:

Provided under the General Practitioner Services of the National Health Acts.

(b) Provided by the Regional Hospital Board:

Tuberculosis:

Tuberculosis cases are seen at the Chest Clinic, Stamford Hospital, provided by the Peterborough and Stamford Hospital Management Committee, or at the Chest Clinic, Memorial Hospital, Peterborough.

Venereal Diseases:

Clinics:

The Memorial Hospital, Peterborough.	Males -	Mondays and Wednesdays 5.30 - 7 p.m.
	Females -	Tuesdays, 10.30 - 12 noon, 5.30 p.m. to 7 p.m.

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BARNACK RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

SURVEYOR AND PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

My Lord, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my 17th Annual Report, this for the year 1967.

STATEMENT OF INSPECTIONS AND VISITS.

Water Supplies	19
Refuse Collection and Disposal	62
Drainage and Sewage Disposal	220
Factories and Workshops	20
Housing (other than Council Houses)	79
Council House Maintenance	362
Building	470
Infectious Diseases	4
Food Preparation (including School Kitchens)	21
Miscellaneous	190
	1447

BUILDING BYELAWS AND REGULATIONS.

116 plans (93 previous year) were deposited and approved under the Public Health Acts and Building Regulations.

Conversions, adaptations and improvements	30
New Private Dwellings	83
Sanitary Conveniences, Drainage, etc.	4
Private Garages and Car Ports.	25
Agricultural Buildings	1
Factory Alterations etc.	1
Other Commercial	18
Works by Public Undertakings	5
Planning and Advertisement Applications	10
Outline Planning Applications only	12

1 Plan was refused during the year for contraventions under Building Regulations.

The work under this heading continues to increase, and during the year the full effect of the Building Regulations (introduced in February 1966) were beginning to be appreciated.

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

4 Applications for Discretionary Improvement Grants were approved for 4 dwellings to the value of £1239.0.0.

2 Applications for Standard Grants were approved to the value of £556.0.0.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS

The number of Factories registered during the year remained the same as previously (25), the majority being one-man businesses and building operations in respect of which Section 7 of the Act is enforced by the Council. Periodic inspections were made and once again there is nothing special to report.

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SHOPS ACTS.

The number of shops registered was 15. The standard of hygiene was again found to be generally satisfactory.

FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS AND REGISTERED FOOD PREMISES

There was an increase of 1 registration during the year, making a total of 13. All ice cream retailed in the district was sold in pre-packed containers.

A complaint of a "Foreign body" found in a tin of ox tongue was investigated but no legal action was instigated.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES AND KNACKERS YARDS

No such premises in the District.

RAG FLOCK ACT.

No such premises in the District.

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1963.

There is one registered in the district, and this establishment complies with the provisions of the Act.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

There were the usual notifications of measles and whooping cough during the year. The few cases of scarlet fever notified were mild in character and no terminal disinfection was necessary.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACTS, 1963

There were 2 new registrations during the year, the total number of premises registered being 14, employing approximately 55 persons.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT.

Inspection and treatment of properties by part-time direct labour proved to be much more economical than the scheme hitherto in operation of combining with four adjoining Authorities for the appointment of a fulltime Rodent Operator.

The cost of operating our own rodent control services amounted to £22.9.9. compared to £13.2.4. for the previous year.

Free treatment of domestic properties was given on 40 occasions immediately on complaint. Very little work of inspection and treatment could be given to farm premises.

Once again a systematic inspection and disinfestation of public sewers was carried out together with disinfestation of Sewage Treatment Works as necessary.

DRAINAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

(a) Pilsgate, Barnack, Bainton and Ufford. These parishes discharge after pumping to a Sewage Treatment Works at Tallington Road, Bainton, with the final effluent discharging to the River Welland in summer months and to the nearby stream in winter months when the flow of water therein gives sufficient dilution.

Infiltration of sewers in Ashton by surface water again occured due to the blockage of roadside dykes.

A persistant blockage in the sewer at Pilsgate was cleared.

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(b) St. Martins Without and Wothorpe. The drainage from these two Parishes is pumped into the Stamford Borough's sewerage system.

(c) Wittering. The new surface aeration scheme, required essentially because of further R.A.F. development, with ancillary works (including the demolition of certain existing settlement tanks and sludge drying beds) was commenced on 1st May. Novel features of this scheme which I was anxious to incorporate will be the use of upward flow clarifiers and the disposal of fine activated sludge through a spray irrigation system onto the adjoining land.

The new plant, when commisioned, will still incorporate the present system of sludge/straw composting which has worked so well during the last 6 to 7 years.

(d) Wansford and Thornhaugh. The small sewage treatment units taking the discharge from Council Houses in these villages were again maintained during the year.

At the end of the year documents and drawings had been prepared, and the Contractors nominated for a new scheme of sewerage and sewage disposal, for these two villages, scheduled to start early in 1968. This scheme will incorporate gravity sewers, pumping mains, ejector stations, and the installation of an "Oxigest" disposal unit with tertiary grass plot treatment at Wansford.

Unfortunately the owners of land were unwilling for the grass plot treatment to be sited as originally planned, but agreed that this should now be sited adjacent to the "Oxigest" unit. This will be in a much more conspicuous position lying as it does in an angle formed between the old and the new A.47 Peterborough road.

(e) Southorpe. This is a small and straggling hamlet. A report from the Consulting Engineer received during the year confirmed that the installation of main drainage would be very costly, especially as it is not favoured by the County Planning Authority for any development except for limited and selective in filling.

(f) Samples. 13 samples of sewage effluents were taken with results as shown:-

	Entirely Satisfactory	Partially Unsatisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Total
Wittering	5	1	1	7
Bainton	2	1		3
Wansford	2		1	3

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

Once again the weekly scheme of refuse collection commenced in 1960 worked well despite various breakdowns of the vehicle and some shortage and turnover of labour.

All refuse is disposed by controlled tipping on the refuse tip operated by the Stamford Borough Council on repayment of £65 p.a.

No waste paper was separated during the year due to the uneconomical selling price.

At the end of the year a conference was held of Rural District Council Surveyors with the County Planning Officer and the County Surveyor, regarding certain aspects of the Civic Amenities Act 1957, relating to a County Scheme for the disposal of bulky household refuse and derelict motor cars.

COUNCIL DEPOT

The construction of a new depot at Wittering was completed except for the sub division of part of the building for a store and toilets etc.

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WATER SAMPLES

Samples from the public supplies in the area were taken at regular intervals by the South Lincs Water Board.

COUNCIL HOUSE MAINTENANCE

Minor repairs are carried out by Council workmen, and other repairs by local building contractors.

The modernisation of 6 council houses at Wittering was completed in the early part of the year, and similar work was commenced on a further 4 houses, this being the last block of pre-war council houses to be modernised.

Access paths, conrete and tarmac, were constructed or repaired during the year to all houses as necessary.

The painting of 50 houses was approved during the year. Timber fencing at the rear of Bainton and Uffington Road houses was repaired.

During the year the council purchased, at a nominal cost, cookers and coppers hired by the Council from the E.M.E.B.. These were handed over to the tenants concerned, who in future will be responsible for maintenance.

A fault in the sub-floor electrical heating system in a flat at Wittering was located and repaired, and earth leakage trips were installed at houses in Orchard Road, Barnack and at Wittering.

The frontage of Manor View Barnack, was improved and grassed during the year.

NEW COUNCIL HOUSE BUILDING

The scheme for 12 bungalows (contract price £35,338) on the old Hostel Site (Little Northfields) Barnack commenced in November of the previous year, was completed in October/November 1967.

Initial negotiations and preparation of plans were commenced early in the year for the 2nd phase housing at Little Northfields, involving 4 bungalows and 10 houses. A contract for this work amounting to £37,601 was signed at the end of the year, and work was expected to commence in January, 1968.

At the end of the year the Defence Land Agent (Ministry of Defence) had intimated that the small area of land between Boxer Road and back land owned by the Council would be dedicated, subject to certain conditions, to the Council.

CARAVAN SITES

There are no authorised sites in the area except 2-3 caravans used during construction by owner/occupiers of new houses

B.P. EXPLORATION CO. LTD.

The Wittering bore hole was sealed off in April on the completion of the drilling operation.

HOUSING AND PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS

Undertakings were received from owners during the year, not to relet 4 substandard properties for human habitation. The tenants of 12 sub-standard cottages at Southorpe Terrace were re-housed at the end of the year.

25 houses were repaired during the year as a result of informal action.

D. WARD GRIFFITHS
F.F.S., M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.
Surveyor and Public Health Inspector.

December 1968.